

Newsletter of the

BUNCOM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

November 1998



PLANS UNDERWAY TO REPLACE COOKHOUSE ROOF



The Old Cookhouse on Buncom Day '98

1998 IN REVIEW: ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR BUNCOM

From continued repairs to Buncom, to statewide recognition of Buncom, 1998 was another full year for the Society. Some of the highlights:

-- A new "antique" door to the Bunkhouse was built and installed by Ron Marchetti.

-- In April, Buncom was recognized at the Oregon

Arts and Culture Summit in Portland which was sponsored by Gov. Kitzhaber.

-- We had another successful Buncom Day, with 500-600 attending and a return of the Buncom Day Parade.

-- Buncom was featured on the Medford Visitors and Convention Bureau web site.

Repairs scheduled to be done in the Spring

Two down, and one to go. That's the status of the roofs on the Buncom buildings, and now it's time for #3.

At its last meeting, the Society's Board of Directors voted to replace the roof on the Cookhouse. This continues the preservation project for Buncom that has been ongoing since the Society was formed six years ago.

This won't be the first work done on the Cookhouse. In 1996, right after the Centennial celebration, the support timbers along the back wall were replaced and rotting wood was cut out. So the building structurally is in good shape, but now it's time to fix the roof.

The Post Office and Bunkhouse roofs have been replaced and structural work has been completed on both those buildings. Still remaining to be done is the replacement of the Cookhouse windows, a project we also hope to get underway this spring.

From Buncom's history:

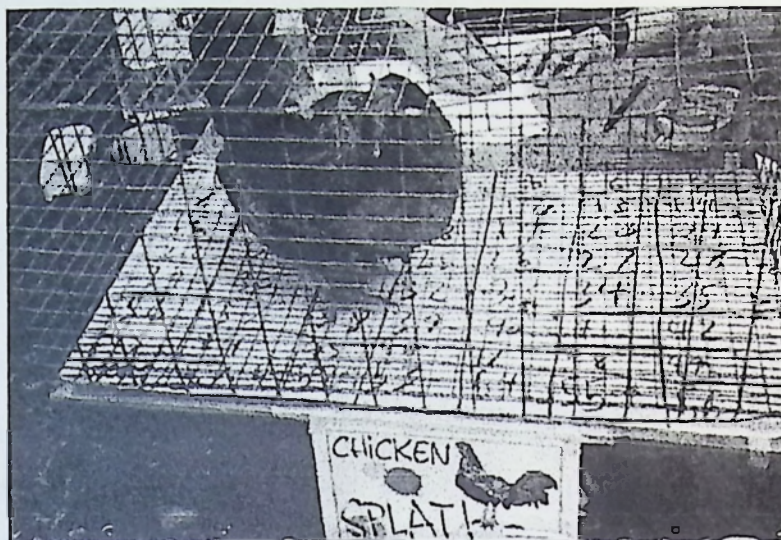
Why the Buncom Historical Society?

In the Society's 1995 book, "Buncom: Crossroads Station," co-author J.B. Roberts explained why the history of Buncom is important:

Why write, or read, a history of a small valley where nothing of note happened? The reason is that we approach our life with the pattern embedded in us by the people who preceded us. Jesse (Applegate) may have been right with respect to the events in Oregon as seen against the upheaval of the Civil War and the remaking of American society from a backwater agricultural country into an urbanizing manufacturing colossus. What we can see more clearly, from our perspective a century later, is that Oregon, with Buncom as Oregon in microcosm, represents a renewal of the American experiment in society formation. We are now remaking our society under the forces of population pressure, economic upheaval, and new global interrelationships which make application of familiar solutions risky. The solutions we adopt must be congruent with who we are.

We are more a product of the everyday citizens who led unremarkable but meaningful lives in places like Buncom than we are of the movers and shakers who occupy most of the real estate in history books. The weathered buildings of Buncom are a tangible symbol of those past lives which shaped us.

On Stage at Buncom Day



Yes, Virginia, there really is a World-Famous Buncom Chicken-Splat Contest! One of the star attractions of 1998's Buncom Day, preparing to perform.

Buncom Postmark from 1909 Added to Our Collection

Thanks from the Society to Catherine Gribble Kellogg of Medford for contributing a copy of an envelope and postmark from a letter sent to her father. It's postmarked as received at Buncom on May 14, 1909 and was addressed to "Mr. John Gribble, c/o U.S. Forestry Dept., Buncom, Oregon."

Mrs. Kellogg explains that her father was in the Forest Service in the early days. The return address is from Fred E. Winslow in Des Moines, Iowa, and the letter was mailed from Des Moines on May 3 of that year..

Mrs. Kellogg tells us that the Southern Oregon Historical Society's "Heritage" magazine in-

cluded an article about her father in its Summer 1996 issue, taken from his diaries.

IT'S RENEWAL TIME

It's membership renewal time! membership dues are now due for the 1999 calendar year. Just fill out the form on Page 3 of this newsletter.

Annual dues are \$5.00 per family. Membership includes this quarterly newsletter, a certificate suitable for framing, and the good feeling that you're helping preserve Southern Oregon's last standing ghost town.



BUNCOM HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP DUES

Here's my membership dues for 1999. I've enclosed \$5.00 for an individual or family membership.

Please enter your name(s) as you would like it to appear on the membership certificate, suitable for framing, and the mailing list:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail to: Buncom Historical Society, 3232 Little Applegate Road, Jacksonville, OR 97530

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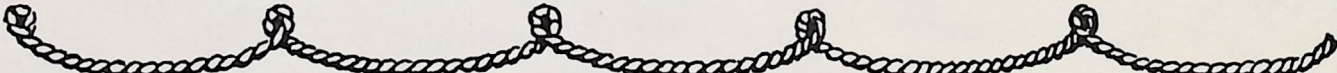
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The Buncom Historical Society is a non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving the buildings and history of the ghost town of Buncom, Oregon. Society address: 3232 Little Applegate Road, Jacksonville, OR 97530

On the Internet:
www.mind.net/buncom/



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Mary Anne League, of Sutherlin, at the Buncom Day Parade, wearing the same Hollywood-designed outfit she wore 20 years ago in the Pasadena Rose Parade.